



draft MINUTES

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ADVISORY BOARD

7506 E. Indian School Road

Scottsdale, Arizona

Wednesday, August 21, 2002

5:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Environmental Quality Advisory Board was called to order at 5:40 p.m. by Daniel Basinger, Board Chair

Members Present: Daniel Basinger, Board Chair
Don Manthe, Vice Chair
Lynn Ashby
Michael Brady
Michael Mulroy
Randy Nussbaum
Henry Rampelt

City Staff Present: Larry Person
Rick Pence
Dave Potter
Connie Padian
Anthony Floyd
Mark Powell
Adina Lund
Judy Register
Shannon Wallace
Chuck Skidmore

Guests Present: Councilman Wayne Ecton
Ms. Martha Ecton
Ron Hand – Green Building Committee Liaison
Christina Guthrie
Jose Aguirre

2. Approval of 7/17/02 Meeting Minutes

Vice Chair Manthe moved to approve the minutes for the 7/17/02 meeting. Board Member Brady seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by a vote of (7-0).

3. Old Business

- Job Site Electric Power

Mr. Potter referred to a handout in the Board Member packets and explained that staff was including a requirement in its presentation to City Council for the adoption of the new code that all job site power be furnished by the serving electrical utility company. He noted that the requirement would result in noise reduction and reduce air pollution. He went on to add that, if electrical power is not reasonably available, a variance could be obtained until such time as electrical power could be brought to the site.

In response to a question by Vice Chair Manthe, Mr. Potter explained that the building inspector, who would verify the job site electrical power installation at the time of inspection for footings, would carry out enforcement of the requirement. He also pointed out that the contractors, in general, were not opposed to the requirement.

- Green Building Report

- a. Energy Code.

Chair Basinger advised the Board that the City is revising the residential building code, and that the Maricopa County Association of Governments has recommended that the City adopt the International Residential Code. He added that the proposed revisions had been presented at the last Green Building Committee meeting and that the Committee voted in favor of a recommendation by the EQAB for adoption of the revisions as presented.

Mr. Floyd went on to explain the changes as they relate to energy performance. He pointed out the new section recognizing third party certification programs, adding that these are private programs that are deemed to be in compliance with the code. He also called attention to the prescriptive table under the Building Envelope

section and stated that the code is biased toward colder climates. Mr. Floyd explained the proposed changes, which would be more appropriate for the Southwest climate.

Mr. Floyd reviewed the changes relating to the administrative section of the code, and explained that the building code now recognizes the green building guidelines and that those guidelines are now enforceable. He added that provisions to withdraw from the Green Building Program have also been included.

Chair Basinger suggested the addition of a clause to fence job sites. He cited liability and environmental issues. Mr. Person distributed copies of the resolution for Board Member approval. Discussion ensued and several changes were suggested to the language of the amendment. Board Member Nussbaum pointed out a grammar correction and suggested that “establishes” in the second, third, and fourth paragraphs be changed to read “establish”, and that the preceding “have” be deleted.

Mr. Floyd suggested adding “establish criteria for energy conservation and the Green Building Program” to the second paragraph, and adding “Green Building Program” to the third paragraph.

On motion made by Vice Chair Manthe and seconded by Board Member Ashby, the resolution as amended was approved by a unanimous vote of (7-0).

- Recycling Programs.

Chair Basinger introduced Councilman Wayne Ecton. Councilman Ecton addressed the Board and advised them that he wished to visit as many Boards and Commissions as possible. He stressed his interest in environmental issues, and discussed past experiences in the industrial setting relative to hazardous waste and disposal. He emphasized the importance of making recycling and the disposal of household hazardous waste more user friendly, and offered his support and encouragement in furtherance of that goal.

Rick Pence stated that the Solid Waste Department has been approved for a third Household Hazardous Waste Event. He noted that the first event would be held in November, the second in January, and the third in April. He explained that the most frequently heard complaint from the previous event was the length

of time spent waiting in line. Mr. Pence stated that the goal for the next event is to decrease the waiting time to no longer than one half hour.

Councilman Ecton offered to assist at the event and visit citizens as they waited and discuss any concerns they might have with regard to Scottsdale and the environment.

In response to a question from Vice Chair Manthe, Mr. Pence explained that dialogue with the City of Tempe about shared use of their recycling center had not been productive. He added that most Scottsdale citizens probably wouldn't want to drive out of town to dispose of items and that a curb side program would be the most viable remedy. He stated that he was looking at that possibility.

Mr. Pence reviewed the programs currently offered by his department, and stated his commitment to encouraging recycling in both residential and commercial areas.

- Citizen Noise Complaints Staff Training.

Shannon Wallace spoke on behalf of Citizen Neighborhood Resources and presented to the Board a white paper to facilitate staff response to noise complaints from citizens. She noted that a great deal of research had been done in the document preparation, including solutions to noise problems in comparable cities. Ms. Wallace stated that the document would be updated as needed.

Discussion ensued as to the viability of a noise ordinance. Board Member Nussbaum expressed a concern that the basic noise issues had not been addressed and that there was no regulation of noise. Ms. Register replied that her department has been involved in a mediation program that focuses on neighbors talking to one another to resolve noise issues. Councilman Ecton added that a noise ordinance might present some very difficult enforcement issues and suggested documenting the number of calls and type of complaints made to the code enforcement hotline in order to first identify the problem areas.

Chair Basinger directed staff to collect data relative to noise complaints and to report back to the Board in six months. At that time, the Board would re-evaluate the issue based on the information obtained. Board Member Mulroy moved to table the noise ordinance issue for a period of six to nine months, giving staff sufficient time to develop meaningful data as to volume and type of

complaints. Board Member Brady seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of (7-0).

- Green Building Report.

Ron Hand reviewed the activities of the Green Building Committee. He discussed the implementation of the Green Building Checklist and the energy survey. The survey would be included with the plan review for the customer to complete as a means to gauge what people are interested in, in terms of green building and energy. He stated that a part time inspector from city staff would be conducting inspections for the Green Building Program. Mr. Hand went on to discuss the Green Building Expo, a joint event by Scottsdale and Phoenix to be held on October 4 and 5, and the Green Building lecture series. He concluded by advising the Board that the Committee is proposing to develop remodeling guidelines, and that an explanation guide has been added to the Green Building rating worksheet to clarify terms and intent.

Chair Basinger complimented the Green Building Committee for its commitment and effort. He added that videotaping the Green Building Lecture Series had been suggested. Ms. Padian reported that Cable Channel 11 would be selecting certain lectures for taping.

5. New Business

- Stormwater Communications Plan & Markers (NPDES)

Ms. Lund presented an overview of the citywide stormwater plan and reviewed the EPA requirements. She explained that contaminants released into the stormdrain inlets pollute the washes, and that it is critical to keep the water clean and flowing. Ms. Lund commented that trash and debris can create blockages of the inlets and could ultimately affect the groundwater. She stated that Arizona is one of only three states that manage their own stormwater program

Ms. Lund explained the proposed program to place markers at each stormwater inlet and stressed the importance of a regional approach to the issue. Discussion ensued as to placement and type of marker. The Board also discussed whether the placement should be done by City Staff or by a contractor. The consensus of the members was that a regional perspective was critical and that metal markers placed by a contractor would be most efficient. Chair Basinger assured Ms. Lund of the Board's support and

requested that she return to report on the progress of the stormwater plan.

- Quarterly/Annual Environmental/EQAB Report to Council.

Chair Basinger noted that former Chair Diehn initiated this item and that environmental issues need to be elevated to a level that reports to the deputy city manager. He cited the concern of the citizens of Scottsdale with environmental issues and the current issues of air and water quality. The Board Members discussed the advisability of a report to Council. Councilman Ecton observed that a presentation at a City Council study session would be most effective in giving Council a total picture of the Board's activities. Chair Basinger asked to have this item placed on the September agenda for a vote.

6. Updates and Reminders.

- Green Building Expo, Oct. 4-5, 2002

Chair Basinger encouraged attendance at this event.

Chair Basinger reminded the Board that the theme for the next meeting would be water conservation. He also informed the Board Members that Board Member Brady would have a scheduling conflict regarding the regular Wednesday night EQAB meeting for the next few months. Discussion ensued as to the possibility of changing the meeting night. It was decided to agendize the item for discussion and vote at the next meeting.

7. Public Comment

There were no public comments forthcoming.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Swanberg
Court Reporter

